[Mr. M. N. Pillai.]

(2) When works executed by the Public Works Department fail, what enquiry is made to ascertain if the failure is due to defects in design or execution, so as to fix the responsibility, if any, on the officers who designed or executed them?

(3) Will the Government be pleased to give a list of works costing Rs. 1,000 and above that failed during the ten years 1091-1100, with the names of the Engineers who designed and executed them and state if, in any case, the responsibility was brought home to the officers who designed or executed them?

(4) Will the Government be pleased to look into the record of officers nominated for promotion and see if there were works costing Rs. 1,000 and above designed and executed by them which have failed; and, if so, will they make a full enquiry into the cause of such failure before such officers are confirmed?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) Efficiency bar ordinarily means a bar placed at a certain stage of a time-scale of pay beyond which an inefficient officer will not get his increments. Such a bar cannot obviously apply in the case of promotions from a lower to a higher appointment. If, however, the member means whether efficiency is taken into consideration in the promotions of Assistant Engineers as Executive Engineers, the answer is in the affirmative.

(2) When failures occur, the causes are investigated, which include defects, if any, in execution and in design, in fixing responsibility.

(3) As the period is very long, the list can be prepared only after a good deal of labour in searching the records, and the time and labour involved therein are not justified by the utility of the search.

(4) The record of each officer is taken into consideration before nominations for promotions are made. The causes of failure of works, if any, are investigated then and there and if any failure is found to be due to the fault of any officer, it is recorded against him at the time and is reviewed when making nominations.

Cart Roads in Karunagapalli Taluk.

68. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): (1) Are the Government aware that the people of Karunagapalli taluk and of the south-western parts of Mavelikara taluk are suffering great loss and hardship in the transport of manure, agricultural produce, etc., for want of cart roads running west to east from the shore of the lake to the principal roads in the interior?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to state the action taken for opening at least one cart road in Putupalli *pakuthi*, Karunagapalli taluk, running from the shore of the lake eastwards to Krishnapuram, which is connected with the principal roads running eastwards, northwards and southwards?

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(3) Will the Government be pleased to state why no provision for the construction of the road mentioned in part (2) is made in the P. W. D. Budget Estimates for 1102, though a provision was made therefor in the P. W. D. Estimates for 1100 and 1101, and no work has been done on the line as yet?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : (1) The Government are aware that roads of the kind referred to are necessary and two roads are under construction for the opening up of the parts referred to.

(2) In view of the fact that the road from Alumpeedika to Oachira is parallel to the route suggested, and not far off from it, the Government considered the proposed road as but one of local interest to be taken up only when the people of the locality come forward to co-operate, at least by giving up the required lands free or at a nominal compensation.

(3) The question has been dropped on learning from the local officers that the people to be benefited by the road were not keen about the matter.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Karthikapalli*): With reference to part (1) of the question, may I know whether the Government are aware that the Alumpeedika-Oachira road is in a different *pakuthi* altogether from the Putuppalli *pakuthi*.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : That does not matter. It is a road running between two contiguous *pakuthies*.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to enquire whether the road is in that *pakuthi*?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : The member himself knows it well, I believe.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to enquire whether the distance between the two projected roads is in most places about two miles?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : The Chief Engineer says that it is within a mile south of this road.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : May I know how the Government concluded that the road between Putuppalli and Krishnapuram is "but one of local interest to be taken up only when the people of the locality come forward to co-operate"?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : It is not a road that will serve the whole taluk. There are other means of communication and therefore the importance of this road is becoming less. Unless people are prepared to come forward, the Government have decided that that road is a luxury.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Is the member aware that the Putupalli-Krishnapuram road leads to the Adoor road while the Alumpeedika-Oachira road does not lead eastward.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

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MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : With regard to the answer to part (3) of the question, *viz.*, " the question has been dropped on learning from the local officers that the people to be benefited by the road were not keen about the matter ", will the Government be pleased to state who are the local officers concerned?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : The officers of the Land Revenue and the Public Works Departments.

License Fee on Boats.

69. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state the action taken on the representation made on behalf of the Travancore Boatmen's Association for reducing the license fee for country canoes and for making the fee payable in two instalments, instead of in one lump sum as at present?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : The representation was referred to the Chief Engineer who reports that it is not feasible to grant the prayers and the Government agree with him.

Deepening of Waterways between Quilon and Trivandrum.

70. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state the action taken on the representation made on behalf of the Travancore Boatmen's Association for deepening parts of the waterway from Quilon to Trivandrum, the shallowness of which during the major part of the year causes great hardship and loss of time and money to boatmen and merchants?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : The representation was referred to the Chief Engineer who reports that instructions have been issued to keep the canal route in good navigable condition.

Qualifications for Officers testing Motor Buses.

71. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the names of the persons appointed to test the structural fitness of motor buses and to issue certificates, basing which permits are issued to ply them for hire ;

(*b*) the qualifications of each ;

(*c*) whether they had, at the time of their appointment, any special training in Motor Engineering, and, if so, where and for what period ;

(*d*) whether they had any practical experience in Motor Engineering at the time they were appointed ;

(*e*) whether they had worked in any motor workshop, and, if so, where and for what period ; and

(*f*) (i) the names of the persons who applied for being appointed to test the structural fitness of motor buses, since the abolition of the post of Motor Bus Inspector ;

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